

CLAIMS

1. A data erasing apparatus for erasing data recorded on a magnetic disk contained in a magnetic disk drive, comprising:

5                   magnetic field generating means, having a space capable of accommodating the entire magnetic disk drive, for applying a magnetic field by means of a permanent magnet to the magnetic disk contained in the magnetic disk drive accommodated in the space; and

10                   a moving mechanism for moving the magnetic disk drive, in inserting and removing directions, in the space of the magnetic field generating means by overcoming an attraction force exerted by the magnetic field.

15           2. A data erasing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the moving mechanism includes a converting mechanism for converting rotational motion into translational motion, thereby making possible the movement overcoming the attraction force.

20           3. A data erasing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the moving mechanism includes a rotatable handle for giving a rotational force to the converting mechanism.

25           4. A data erasing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the moving mechanism includes an electric motor for giving a rotational force to the converting mechanism.